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Attorney Docket No.: 018867-000410US **PATENT**

On JANUARY 26, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Eleanor J. Taylor

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**JAN 26 2004**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:  
  
SHUZO FUJIMURA et al.  
  
Application No.: 09/328,939  
  
Filed: June 9, 1999  
  
For: SURFACE TREATMENT  
METHOD AND EQUIPMENT

Examiner: Shamim Ahmed  
  
Art Unit: 1765  
  
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37  
CFR §1.97 and §1.98

**OFFICIAL**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. The first pages of the references are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

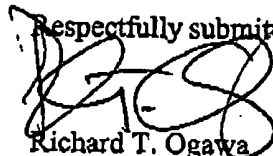
SHUZO FUJIMURA et al.  
Application No.: 09/328,939  
Page 2

PATENT

This IDS is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

Applicants believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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|--|---|----|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Substitute for form 1448A/PTO  |   |    | <i>Complete if Known</i> |                 |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    | Application Number       | 09/328,939      |
|  |   |    | Filing Date              | June 9, 1999    |
|  |   |    | First Named Inventor     | Fujimura, Shuzo |
|  |   |    | Art Unit                 | 1765            |
|  |   |    | Examiner Name            | Shamim Ahmed    |
|  |   |    | Attorney Docket Number   | 018867-000410US |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1                        |                 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS* |                       |                 |                                   |                             |   |   |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Examiner Initials*     | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number |                                   | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|                        |                       | Number          | Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                             |   |   |
|                        | AA                    | US-6,551,939    | B2                                |                             | Takamatsu et al.                                |   |
|                        | AB                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AC                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
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|                        | AE                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
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|                        | AG                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AH                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AJ                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AJ                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AK                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
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|                        | AM                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AN                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AO                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AP                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AQ                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AR                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AS                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |
|                        | AT                    | US-             |                                   |                             |   |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   |                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                     |                                   | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | † <sup>6</sup>           |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                             |   |   |                          |
|                          | AU                    | JP                        | 19950005<br>229     |                                   | 07-30-1996                  |   | Abstract  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | AV                    |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | AW                    |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | AX                    |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | AY                    |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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|                          | BA                    |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | BB                    |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

|                    |  |                 |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to